

Houston Solar Energy

Houston has a growing base of solar energy sources.

SELECTED HOUSTON SOLAR ENERGY COMPANIES	
Company Name	Description
ABB Inc.	Generation, transmission and distribution of solar power
AmerCable	Cable and cable assembly solutions for solar plants
Ameresco Solar	Designs and engineers off-grid solar power solutions
Bluebonnet Electric	Connecting solar generation systems to the grid
Eco Roofing Systems	Solar panel installation
EDP Renewables (formerly Horizon Wind Energy)	Develops, builds and operates solar plants
First Solar	Develops, engineers, constructs and operates solar plants
GE Renewable Energy	Develops, builds and operates solar plants
Green Mountain Energy	Solar power generation
IES Holdings (formerly Integrated Electrical Services)	Solar system installation
Innovative Skylights	Solar attic fans installation
Kaneka Solar Energy	Solar power generation
Nature's Electric Inc.	Solar thermal energy development
NRG Energy / Reliant Energy - Solar	Solar power generation
PetersenDean	Solar panel installation
Solarcraft	Design and manufactures solar power products
Sunnova Energy Company	Solar power generation and solar system installation
Texas Solar Outfitters	Design and installation of custom solar energy systems
Tideland Signal	Solar charged remote power units
Sources: Hoovers, PrivCo, SEIA	

- With a capacity of 1,846.9 MW, Texas ranks seventh in the country for solar capacity as of Q3 2017, powering 207,000 Texas homes and employing 9,396 people. Yet, solar energy still only made up 1 percent of all in-state electricity production in Texas in '17.
- In terms of solar capacity growth, Texas ranks third in the nation, installing 228 new solar installations as of Q3 2017. Over the next 5 years, 5,239 MW will be added to Texas' solar capacity.
- According to Google's Project Sunroof, which uses satellite imagery to show the amount of solar power that could be collected from roof-top solar installations, Houston has the greatest solar energy potential of any U.S. city. Houston could generate enough solar energy to power 1.7 million homes annually.
- More than 100 Houston-based companies are involved in some aspect of solar power, according to the Solar Energy Industries Association. In March '17, Houston-based Sunnova Energy Corporation announced plans to develop new residential solar projects with a total value of more than \$200 million.
- In April '17, the 50 MW SolaireHolman solar project started generating power. This project, located in Alpine, TX, will provide the City of Houston up to 10.5 percent of its electricity needs under a 20-year power purchase agreement (PPA). The project includes 203,840 solar panels and will provide electricity for Houston locations as the Hermann Park Zoo, the Bob Lanier Public Works Building, wastewater treatment plants, and several Bush Intercontinental Airport terminals.
- Houston also has on-site solar arrays that generate more than 125,000 kWh annually at municipal buildings.